PUDUKKOTTAI STATE
NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU

BULLETIN] OCTOBER 4, 1942 [No. 115

LECTURE CXV.

BRITAIN AND GERMANY.

(*Mr. J. B. Priestley*).

British war production is now level with German war production—British war production, notice—our own war production here in our island. We are now producing at least as many aeroplanes a month as Germany is, and they are much better aeroplanes than Germany's.

Now this overtaking of Nazi Germany in war production is one of the most remarkable feats in history. I venture to say myself that it's the most extraordinary achievement that this island and its people can claim. Its magnitude and character are not yet appreciated. We don't appreciate them ourselves yet, we hardly realize what we have done, being so busy doing it.

Let's look closer at this astonishing race between two neighbouring peoples. The Nazis began with all the odds on their side. When the Nazis took over the country, there were several million unemployed in Germany.

The German heavy industries, some of whose leaders had already subsidized Hitler, were working at only a fraction of their capacity. So Hitler and his friends decided to kill several birds with one stone.

AGGRESSION A NAZI INDUSTRY.

They had to settle the unemployment problem as quickly as possible. They had to make the fullest possible use of their heavy industries, and they were determined to make Germany the strongest military power in the world—so strong that it would be able to defy international law, custom and ethics, and become, in fact, a gigantic brigand state, whose staple industry was aggression.

So the Nazis began building their tremendous war machine. The people they controlled were almost ideal people for this particular purpose. They were, for the most part, naturally obedient and docile, only too anxious to receive orders. In addition they were, of course, immensely industrious, and had a genius for patient detailed organization.

Moreover, their national traditions were militarist, so that the idea of spending their time and energy creating instruments of destruction wasn't repugnant to them, but instantly aroused their pride and loyalty.

Within a year or two of the Nazis' taking over the country, the people were already living in a war atmosphere. They were strictly rationed. They were drilled and disciplined. They saw uniforms and marching men everywhere—their national pride was constantly heightened and inflamed.

GERMANY'S PREPARATIONS.

Every aggressive instinct, so long as it faced outward towards other nations, was artfully fostered. A huge propaganda department, directed by the cunning and unscrupulous Goebbels, took charge of the Press, the radio, the films and theatres, literature and the arts, so that everything that was said and done should serve this war machine and the men who were preparing to make use of it.

An equally efficient and ruthless police department, under Himmler, saw to it that adverse criticism of the Nazis and their policy should cease, and that the more persistent critics should disappear.

The world stared uneasily at this astonishing spectacle of a great people, toiling like beavers and ants in so-called time of peace, to build all the machinery of war. Most of us didn't realize then how vast this effort was, though now and again we were solemnly warned that it was reaching a terrifying size.

Here in Britain, Winston Churchill made one impressive speech after another, warning the House of Commons and the people that Nazi Germany was now arming rapidly and ruthlessly on an unprecedented scale. He was accused of being a mere war monger.

Let us admit that the prevailing mood of the democracies and especially among the more comfortable classes, was then an unrealistic one—the mood of men who are determined not to face unpleasant facts, and so pretend to themselves that the facts aren't there.

Hitler and Goering and their gang grinned and chortled in private, while announcing any smooth nonsense in public. They hurried on, adding bombing squadron to bombing squadron, tank to tank, gun to gun, and began to reveal, by their growing insolence to the outside world, their belief that very soon they would be able to take civilization to pieces.

WAS IT TOO LATE?

Had we in the democracies left it too late? The Nazis believed we had. Many people outside Germany, people who didn't particulary like the Nazis, believed we had, and hastened to make friends with these potential world beaters.

The Nazis and the Fascists, and the not very strong-minded people who began to be influenced by them, made no secret of their contempt for the democratic peoples and the democratic idea. We were, it appeared, a decadent lot, well past our prime, no longer capable of making the terrific effort necessary to challenge successfully, I quote one of their favourite phrases, these younger and more virile peoples. We were going down as fast as they were coming up. The future belonged to them—and not the distant future, either, but the immediate future.

Well, when the last attempt at what was generally known as appeasement had failed, when it was obvious that the world was to be given up to war again, we, in Britain, at the very last dangerous moment, accepted the challenge. Remember we were suffering from every possible disadvantage except one, to which I will come later.

SEVEN YEARS' START.

There were 45,000,000 of us in this island, and about 70,000,000 of them. They had about seven years' start on us; they'd been living and toiling in a war atmosphere for years, during which we had amused ourselves, and hoped for the best.

We were an easy-going democracy, while they were an iron dictatorship, in which every man, woman and child could be ordered at once into uniform or into a war factory.

They liked this kind of life—its nonsense suited their nonsense, whereas we detested it. Their traditions were in favour of it, while our traditions were against it.

That challenge looked hopeless, the odds looked worse than those on David versus Goliath. Moreover, to make matters still worse, our really big effort had to be made, not only when the war was on, but also when that war going badly against us—when the whole coast of Europe, facing us, was in Nazi hands; when the seas surrounding us were swarming with U-boats; when the bombing armadas of the Luftwaffe were menacing us day and night, when invasion was an immediate possibility.

Whereas, they had only to improve month by month upon the gigantic organization of war industry they'd created, when we were ostensibly at peace, we had to improvise in the very shadow and menace of war itself, when already our towns were burning, and the air raid sirens were screaming outside our factory gates.

Nor is that all, for with the sudden conquest of Western Europe, Nazi Germany could add enormously to her seventy millions. By looting the occupied countries, and then controlling the food supplies, the Nazis could compel the hungry masses in these unhappy countries to supply a kind of slave labour that would vastly increase their manpower.

The result was that factories far outside the frontiers of Germany were now working for the Nazi war machine. And this is what we had to challenge and to beat, at the last desperate minute, with hell roaring all round us.

And we have challenged it, and we are beginning to beat it. And the Nazis know it. That old insolence and swagger have vanished.

NO MORE NAZI TAUNTS.

We no longer hear any of those taunts about the decadent democracies, not a word now about Britain being finished. Even Goebbels hasn't the impudence to tell the people in the Ruhr, in Cologne, in Lubeck and Rostock, in Bremen and Hamburg, that Britain is finished.

Even he daren't tell the men in the shattered Luftwaffe squadrons, or in the sorely battered Afrika Korps, that the British are no longer capable of fighting total war.

He and his gang should have read Mein Kampf with more care, for in that fantastic work it's freely admitted by the author, whose judgment then hadn't been completely corrupted by power, that the British are an exceptionally tough and tenacious people, who, once they are thoroughly aroused, will carry on to the bitter end.

We've changed these people's tune for them, and wiped those silly insolent grins off their faces: We've done what was thought to be impossible—entered the race years behind them, with far fewer people; retained our democracy, and yet caught up with this grim empire of ruthlessness, torture, and slavery.

BETTER BRITAIN NOW.

We had, I said, every disadvantage, except one, but that one advantage has outweighed all the disadvantages—it is the advantage of the free mind and the unburdened heart.

This country of Britain is a better country than it was 10 years ago. How many Germans, once out of reach of the Gestapo, would admit that Germany is a better country than it was 10 years ago?

They know, as so many American correspondents from Germany have told us, that they are living in a gigantic prison. The very air stifles and corrupts them; their laurels wither in that air. Triumphs turn at once to dust. Their

minds move restlessly, and with growing uneasiness in the mere prison yard allowed them. Their hearts are burdened and darkened by a feeling of guilt. The hatred and contempt of the world fills them with growing dismay.

They are living in a kind of nightmare. Their leaders disappear, having gone suddenly mad, they are told, or been visited by strange illnesses. The Gestapo are everywhere, accusing, condemning, striking down—and no man trusts his neighbour.

In the occupied countries factories are blown up, trains are derailed, shots are fired in the street.

Where is this great victorious Germany that was to be the rich happy master of the world ?

We in Britain turned to our great and desperate task of challenging this Nazi war machine with the supreme advantage of the free mind and the unburdened heart.

We drew on vast resources of nervous energy. Our people hurried to the recruiting offices, and the labour exchanges. They begged to be allowed to work through raids.

If they condemned or criticized our war effort, it wasn't because we'd asked them to do too much, but because they felt themselves capable of doing still more than it had yet asked them to do. **Out of a population that—that's excluding children and old people—only amounts to thirty-three million, we've called up for national service, in some form or another 22,000,000 adult persons. Not 22,000,000 sullen slaves, sick at heart, but 22,000,000 eager, zestful citizens, who felt that the world's eye brightened at the sight of them, because they fought and toiled so that men should be free.**

Because we began so late, we've been compelled to improvise ; but then, just as we have a national distaste for long-term detailed organization, so too we have a national genius for rapid improvisation.

That was the significance of Dunkirk—it showed that when the hour struck that genius for improvisation hadn't deserted us. There will never be a German Dunkirk..

FREE CRITICISM.

Don't, I beg of you, be deceived by our constant criticism of ourselves—a criticism in which I for one have frequently and loudly joined. We criticize our own efforts—because we know they're not perfect. Because we want them to be bigger and better still, and because we're free men, and determined to have our say.

Suppose Himmler and Goebbels had the courage to remove their shackles and gags, and asked the Germans to criticize their efforts freely in public—what a savage clamour there would be.

Why wasn't Britain invaded in the summer of 1940? Why was the Luftwaffe defeated by the British fighter planes? Why was the German Army sent into Russia, and not properly equipped for a winter campaign? Why cannot the R. A. F. be prevented from making bigger and bigger raids on German cities?

I tell you, we should be deafened by the accusing howls of the German people.

But the shackles and gags won't be removed; and are even now being tightened. Nazi Germany is truly revealed as the world's giant police state.

I say that, although it's wonderful, it's not altogether surprising, that with every other disadvantage pressing upon us, we shall successfully challenge and beat this people at their own grim game.

It's the free mind versus the mind in chains. The light and eager heart versus the anxious, guilty, burdened heart. The indignant and determined citizen versus the gang, the wardens and the convicts.

It's the democratic idea, blazing like the rising sun conquering the mad moonshine of Nazism.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

26—9—42 to 2—10—42.

Russia.—The Battle of STALINGRAD is now fought not only from house to house and street to street inside the city but generally speaking along the entire southern front from VORONEJ to the CAUCASUS, and particularly, in the steppe country outside the City between the Volga and the Don. Here just north of STALINGRAD, while the Germans are aiming at a break-through to the Volga the Soviet army is hammering its way towards the Don in a parallel line further north. The aim of both sides is to cut off supplies. The question is who will do it first. The Germans are reported to have made a serious inroad into STALINGRAD'S north-western superbs while the Russian counter-attack outside STALINGRAD has now extended to the south of the city also. It is rumoured that Marshal Von Bock hss been superseded by Marshal Von List.

On the VORONEJ front the Russians have recaptured several important points. The Russian break-through at RZHEV has cleared the Volga bank of the enemy in this sector. In the SINYAVINO area fighting continues for the relief of LENINGRAD.

The Arctic Convoy.—A Russo-Anglo-American convoy, the largest of its kind, has now reached MURMANSK safely, after an eight-day battle in the Arctic againist the *Luftwaffe* and the U-boats, in which, as Rear Admiral Edye Kington Boddam-Whathem described, high level bombing was 'interlaced' with dive-bombing and machine-gunning.

It is stated that material enough to equip an army of 130,000 men has been brought by the convoy. The number of guns, tanks and other stores needed for an army of so much strength must be prodigious A tank division alone is more than 200 tanks and 2,000 supporting vehicles. As Samuel Noel Baker—Under Secretary to the Ministry of War Transport observed, the material which has been convoyed may well be a deciding factor in bringing Hitler to his doom and he significantly added, 'convoys were going on and would be bigger.'

Madagascar—ANTANANARIVO, the capital of the island was occupied on September 23, TULEAR, the last remaining port in the south has surrendered. M. Annet, the VICHY Governor-General of MADAGASCAR, with the remnant of his troops has fled to FORT DAUPHIN at the southern extremity, 400 miles from the capital.

Far East.—Fighting has become intense near SHANHSIAN in the SHANTUNG province of CHINA. The operations in the KINHWA-LANCHI area continue. The American Air Force attacked the Japanese near LUNGLING. The Chinese Air Task Force raided Japanese communications in south-west YUNNAN west of the Salween river and attacked Japanese installations at MEGSHIN and TENGCHANG and along the BURMA Road to WANTUNG. The Japanese have retaken WUYI.

South-west Pacific.—New Guinea: The Japanese drive from MYOLA and NAORO has been brought to a stand-still and the enemy has been dislodged from his advanced position at IORABAIWA Ridge and driven back to NAURO. The Wariopi Rope Bridge on the Kumusi river by which he brought supplies was cut as often as it was repaired.

The Solomons: American Flying Fortresses attacked SHORTLAND ISLAND, one of the biggest Japanese strongholds in the SOLOMONS.

North Pacific: U. S. Land and Air Forces attacked KISKA in the ALEUTIANS.

ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES.

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
17—9—42 (Thursday).				
	FAR EAST.			
	BURMA and CHINA.			
	The town of BHAMO.			
	An oil barge north of KATHA.			
	A railway junction west of KATHA.			
18—9—42 (Friday).				
	FAR EAST.			
	BURMA and CHINA.			
	Air fight at TINKA.			
	Factory buildings at LOIWING.			
	Trucks between TINKA and LOIWING.			
	Enemy barracks at NAMKHAN.			
	Two barges and a steamer at KATHA.			
21—9—42. (Monday).				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
	No information available.			
	LIBYA.			
	The landing grounds near EL DABA.	One big fire started.		
	Air combats over the battle area.			
	Axis tanks and supply columns behind the enemy's lines.			
	RUSSIA.			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the entire Russian Front.			
	FAR EAST.			
	SOLOMONS.			
	GISO Island.			
	An aerodrome at BUKA.			
	NEW GUINEA.			
	Enemy positions at KOKODA.			
22—9—42 (Tuesday).				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
	DAY:—			
	Industrial Objectives in the LILLE—LENS area. **The power-stations** at MAZIN GARBE and PONT-A-VEUDIN. **The iron and steel works** at IJMUIDEN.		2 planes.	
	NIGHT:—			
	No information available.			
	LIBYA.			
	Shipping in the BENGHAZI harbour.	2 ships hit.		
	Air combats over the battle area.			
	RUSSIA.			
	Air combats over the battle area.			
	FAR EAST.			
	NEW GUINEA.			
	Fuel and ammunition dumps, warehouses and many huts at BUNA.			
	Japanese positions at KOKODA.			
	NEW BRITAIN.			
	Enemy shipping in the harbour at RABAUL.			
	Aerodrome at RABAUL.			
	SOLOMONS.			
	The aerodrome at BUKA.			
23—9—42 (Wednesday).				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
	NIGHT:—			
	The submarines yard at FLENSBURG. An enemy convoy off the DUTCH coast.		10 planes.	

LIBYA.

Landing grounds between EL DABA and MERSA MATRUH.

Transport between UIBI ANEISH and FUKA. Fires started.

Shipping and port facilities at TOBRUK.

Vehicles between BU AMUD and BARDIA.

The road between TOBRUK and DERNA.

Landing grounds at FUKA and SIDI HANEISH area.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft along the Eastern Front.

FAR EAST.

NEW BRITAIN.

Enemy shipping in the harbour at RABAUL. A cargo ship hit.

NEW GUINEA.

The track and aerodrome at KOKODA.

The bridge at WAIROPI.

Enemy concentrations at MUBO.

TIMOR.

DILLI.

SOLOMONS.

The aerodrome at BUKA.

Docks and buildings at REKATA BAY.

24—9—42 (Thursday).

GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.

No information available.

LIBYA.

TOBRUK.

Landing grounds in the SIDI HANEISH area.

Axis tanks and supply vehicles behind the enemy's lines.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Eastern Front.

FAR EAST

SHORTLAND Islands.

Enemy transports near the Islands. Transports hit.

NEW GUINEA.

The tract and aerodrome at KOKODA.

The damaged bridge at WAIROPI.

Enemy concentrations at MUBO (12 miles south of SALAMAUA).

NEW BRITAIN.

Enemy shipping in the harbour at RABAUL. 1 plane.

TIMOR.

An enemy cargo ship at DILLI.

S. W. PACIFIC.

Reconnaissance over the North-West area.

25—9—42 (Friday).

GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.

DAY:—

Gestapo headquarters in OSLO (NORWAY). 1 plane.

NIGHT:—

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

LIBYA.

The dock areas at TOBRUK.

Targets on the road side near GALAL.

Transport on the road between SOLLUM and SIDI BARRANI.

Target at MAATANA BAGUSH.

Enemy landing grounds in the SIDI HANEISH area at MERSA MATRUH and FUKA.

Transport in the battle area.

RUSSIA.

Air combats all over the battle area.

ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES—*cont.*

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies	Aircraft losses for Enemies
25—9—42 (Friday)—cont.				
	FAR EAST.			
	INDO-CHINA.			
	GAILAM aerodrome at HANOI.			
	TIMOR.			
	DILLI.	Gutted by fire.		
	NEW BRITAIN.			
	Enemy shipping in the harbour at RABAUL.			
	NEW GUINEA.			
	Dispersal areas at BUNA.			
	WAIROPI bridge at KOKODA.			
26—9—42 (Saturday).				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
NIGHT :—				
	Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.			
	LIBYA			
	Transport on the road between BARDIA and TOBRUK.			
	Air combats over the battle area.			2 planes.
	SICILY.			
	Offensive patrols over SICILY.			1 plane.
	EGYPT.			
	Air combat over the SUEZ area.			1 plane.
	RUSSIA.			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the Russian front.			
	FAR EAST.			
	TOBRIAND Island.			
	An enemy transport off KITAVA Island.			
	NEW BRITAIN.			
	Shipping in RABAUL harbour.	Many ships hit.		
	NEW GUINEA.			
	Dispersal areas at BUNA.			
	Enemy supply lines at EFOGI.			
27—9—42. (Sunday).				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
	No information available.			
	LIBYA.			
	The harbour shipping at BENGHAZI.			
	TOBRUK.			
	Rommel's supply lines behind the enemy's lines.			
	Enemy tanks and other vehicles in the battle area.			
	RUSSIA.			
	Air combats and grounded aircraft along the whole battle area.			
	FAR EAST.			
	NEW BRITAIN.			
	Shipping in the harbour at RABAUL.	Sunk.		
	NEW GUINEA.			
	An airfield at BUNA.			
	Supply installations, barges, aerodromes, and defences in the BUNA-GONA area.			

ENEMY Air Raids over Allied Territories.

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Enemies	Aircraft losses for Allies
22—9—42 (Tuesday).				
	BRITAIN.			
NIGHT :—				
	One place on the south-east coast of ENGLAND.			

ENEMY Air Raids over ALLIED Territories—*cont.*

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses of Enemies	Aircraft losses of Allies
22—9—42 (Tuesday)—cont.			
	RUSSIA.		
STALINGRAD.			
	FAR EAST. NEW GUINEA.		
A place 32 miles from port MORESBY.			
23—9—42 (Wednesday)			
	BRITAIN.		
DAY:—			
Patrol over the CHANNEL.		1 plane.	
NIGHT:—			
No information available.			
	RUSSIA.		
STALINGRAD.			
	FAR EAST.		
No information available.			
24—9—42. (Thursday).			
	BRITAIN.		
DAY:—			
Air combats over BAY of BISCAY		2 planes.	
NIGHT:—			
South-west coast of ENGLAND.	No damage.	1 plane.	
	RUSSIA.		
STALINGRAD.			
Russian communications on the VOLGA east of STALINGRAD.			
25—9—42 (Friday).			
	BRITAIN.		
No air activity.			
	RUSSIA.		
STALINGRAD.			
Russian communications east of STALINGRAD.			

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses of Enemies	Aircraft losses of Allies
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
MALTA.		2 planes.	
26—9—42 (Saturday).			
	BRITAIN.		
No information available.			
	MEDITERRANEAN.		
Reconnaissance over MALTA.			
	RUSSIA.		
STALINGRAD.			
	EGYPT.		
CAIRO.			
	FAR EAST AUSTRALIA.		
Port DARWIN.			
27—9—42 (Sunday).			
	BRITAIN.		
NIGHT:—			
South-East coast of ENGLAND.			
	RUSSIA.		
STALINGRAD.			
Russian supplies east of STALINGRAD.			
	FAR EAST.		
No information available.			
28—9—42 (Monday).			
	BRITAIN.		
DAY:—			
Coastal districts of east and South-east ENGLAND.			
	RUSSIA.		
STALINGRAD.			
	AUSTRALIA.		
Port DARWIN.		1plane.	

SIDE LIGHTS.

STABS IN THE BACK: Plain words and a Warning.

No Indian who has read or who listened to Lt. Gen. Irwin's broadcast from Calcutta on Sunday (Sep 27) can feel but humiliated at, and ashamed of, the hooliganism that has fouled the fair name of India in the last few weeks and brought her down in the world's estimation. To the difficulties of adverse weather above, and disease blow, said Mr. Irwin sadly but not angrily, was added the rebellious activity of a certain section of Indians. It was disappointing, frustrating, he added to meet with this 'ingratitude' from the very people whom they had come from so far to save. What is worse, to these soldiers fell sometimes the unhappy lot of firing on rebellious mobs. Their painful duty, it was, to save INDIA, for the Indians, from the Indians. Harsh words, these, we admit, but sternly true, we add; strong words these, we confess, but not strong enough to condemn the disloyal deeds of sabotage and ruffianism which have disfigured public life of late. But let us hear Lt. Gen. Irwin further :—

" After all these years of close association, at heart the relations between the British and the Indians are friendly and mutually trusting and yet at this dangerous moment certain elements find it necessary to obstruct the war effort by sabotage and other rebellious activities. It can only be hoped that these people do not realise what their activities mean to the safety of their own country. It is not our wish to deal with this menace to our security by German methods of ruthless slaughter, but as has already been our way, by the exercise of moderation.

" Here, I want to emphasise that moderation does not mean weakness and you can take it from me publicly no action you (the soldiers) take which in your judgement you consider necessary to safeguard life and property and to protect our lines communications will fail to receive my support, provided always your action is strong enough for the occasion."

Blunt words these, as a soldier's should be, but clear enough, let us hope, for those who must be sternly warned. But it does not mean that the soldier's heart has no soft corner. Mr. Irwin adds :

' We, soldiers, want no thanks for duty done, but it is an encouragement and consolation to us to know that the people of India as a whole, in spite of apparent exceptions, are not, nor will be, ungrateful in the end for the sacrifices now being made and yet to be made by the fighting men of Britain and India serving together. Some such show of gratitude and sympathy is already evident from the scale on which the people of the Provinces of Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Assam are contributing towards a Christmas present for us all, as

well as from the many other activities voluntarily undertaken for the welfare of the troops.'

▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼

INDIA'S WAR EXPENDITURE. Though financial pandits are busy speculating on the object of Sir Jeremy Raiseman's recent visit to London, the Government of INDIA, we may be sure, is too zealous a guardian of INDIA's interests to overburden her exchequer and His Majesty's Government is too generous to play anything but fair towards INDIA. From the recent Assembly debates it is evident that in the budget of 1942, Rs. 387 crores is chargeable to Whitehall. In addition BRITAIN supplies INDIA with planes, vehicles, guns and other equipment valued at Rs. 60 crores, free of charge.

▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼

THE BOA-CONSTRUCTOR. Wavell's comparison of JAPAN to a boa-constrictor meant by him to explain JAPAN's present inactivity on the Indian frontier may also serve to account for the present Japanese withdrawal from South Eastern CHINA, where, as it may be remembered, not long ago, after closing the BURMA Road the Japanese switched their forces and captured large areas, including strategic railways and air fields. Now they are withdrawing from place after place. They have relinquished some 200 miles of the railway and abandoned the air-fields at WENCHOW, CHUSHIEN, LISHUI and WUYI. KINHWA has been surrounded. What does it all mean ? Chinese resistance could not have increased to such dimensions over night or Japanese strength have collapsed so suddenly. The Japanese explanation that there are no more battles to fight or that the siege of KINHWA is a Chinese fiction would deceive nobody. It may be that American bombers will have difficulty in reaching the air-fields so long as the BURMA Road remains closed but the question still is 'why should the Japanese first take these fields and then relinquish them. The other explanation that the Japanese are removing their forces to the Siberian or other fronts is again hardly satisfying because the Japanese are not so stupid as to relinquish China in favour of Siberia. China is their chief target, Moreover the 'China Incident,' now 6 years old, has yet to be closed. We agree with Wavell that JAPAN is a boa-constrictor but beg to dffer from him in thinking that the boa-constrictor having swallowed more than it can digest is now disgorging part of its prey.

In plain words JAPAN now feels her impotency, her lack of men and resources. Her shortage of man-power is evidenced by the recent enactment lowering school-going age and by the calling-up for military service of Japanese residents in CHINA, hitherto exempted. Shortage of aluminium has resulted in a decree restricting the manufacture of aluminium articles. For want of rubber synthetic production is attempted.

MASUYUKI TANI. The appointment of Masuyuki Tani as Japanese Foreign Minister has given rise to a crop of speculations. Tani is supposed to be an expert on Chinese affairs and his appointment is associated with the recent transfer of Japanese activities from Eastern China to Western YUNNAN, which is represented as a new strategy to defeat Marshall Chiang-Kai-Shek by a direct assault from the west. But it is safer to suppose that Tani's appointment completes the enslavement of the whole Japanese administration to the Tojo military cabinet. There had always been an internecine conflict between the Foreign Office and the War Ministry in JAPAN, which reached its Climax when General Ugaki resigned his Foreign Ministership in protest. Since then the Foreign Office, expecially after the creation of the Overseas Ministry, has become a tool of the War Ministry. The appointment of Tani-a friend of Tojo completes the subservience.

▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼

HEROISM. All honour and glory to the brave defenders of STALINGRAD—worthy descendants of the men who fought at PULTOVA and BORODINO—heroes of a heroic nation. In the streets of STALINGRAD, for over a month, in every corner, and every hour, without distinction of day and night a horrible drama of dive-bombing, tank-charging and artillery-firing is being enacted with bloody results unheard of in history. STALINGRAD is now a heap of ruins. Still the brave Russians hold on, fight on, and are determined to perish in its debris rather than yield to the Nazi desperadoes. What is the secret of this heroism? Is it the fear of Nazi tyranny, the hatred of the desecrators of their motherland; is it the love of home or the magnetism of Stalin ? It is all these and more. There are occasions in the lives of men and of nations when a divine afflatus as it were seizes them ; when men and nations are inspired to lofty deeds; when they exceed themselves and transcend the limitations of humanity. Such a moment came to Drake when he met the Spanish Armada.

▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼

VICTORY FLEET. AMERICA is forging ahead in building ships which cannot but ensure victory. The aircraft-carrier *Lexington*, as was announced on September 26, has been completed a year ahead of schedule. According to the report published by the U. S. Maritinne Commission on September 26, 488 cargo ships aggregating 5,450,000 tons have been completed in the last 12 months. In one of H. J. Kaiser's ship-building yards a 10,500 ton Liberty freighter launched on September 26, was built in 13 days and 3½ hours! As Sir Arthur Salter, Head of the British Merchant Shipping, said on September 28, 'For the first time, this month, the United Nations together have turned out ships faster than this year's rate of sinking.' Next year it is estimated, more than four

ships daily would be turned out by American shipyards: Americans, Britons, Russians, Norwegians, Belgians, Brazilians; Dutch, Greeks, Chinese, Poles, Indians, and Yugo-slavs are united in the great brotherhood of the Seas. As stated by Mr. J. V. Forestal on September 27, 'Every existing production record is being smashed. The noises in American shipyards are the theme of our coming victory and their din can already he heard in BERLIN, TOKYO and ROME.' In a message to AMERICA on Victory Fleet Day on September 27 Mr. Churchill said.

'The extreme measures demanded of the United Nations, in our effort to stem the tide of Axis aggression throughout the world, have produced many wonderful examples of courage, resourcefulness and industry.

'One of the most remarkable is the American shipbuilding programme. The completion of nearly 500 large ocean-going cargo vessels in the short space of the past 12 months since the launching of the "Patrick Henry," the first Liberty ship, is almost unbelievable. It is a record far beyond even the most optimistic hopes and expectations.

'Your countrymen have placed in service, in intense sea battle, a total of nearly 5,300,000 tons of shipping during the year ended to day.

'You know well, and so do the Nazis, what this added tonnage means to the armed forces of the United Nations, who are engaging the enemy on every battle front of the world. You know well what it means to the enslaved peoples of Europe who are depending on these armed forces to free them from the yoke of Nazi tyranny.

'I am glad to join in this United Nations,' salute to the Victory Fleet, to the men who are building these ships, and the men who are sailing them on the seven seas.

'The faithful effort of everyone engaged in this vital programme will take an honourable place in history and will be remembered through years as a master stroke in freedom's cause".

▾ ▾ ▾ ▾ ▾ ▾ ▾ ▾ ▾ ▾ ▾ ▾ ▾

THE DESERT RAIDS. While Rommel is making every effort to replenish his mauled panzers in the Western Desert the Allies are launching a series of attacks from air, sea and land to fray his supply lines. This is the meaning of the repeated attacks on TRIPOLI, MERSA MATRUH, FUKA, EL DABA and BENGHAZI. This was the object of the attack on JALO, which the axis in spite describes as, the AFRICA DIEPPE, but which has proved as disastrous to the Axis as the raid on DIEPPE. The raids remind us of the old familiar phrase—the singeing of the King of SPAIN's beard: It is the singeing of the Axis beard now.

Wendell Willkie's tour of the MIDDLE EAST en route to U. S. S. R. has proved politically fruitful. It has shown once again how staunch Arab and Muslim loyalty is. Willkie himself stated that the object of his visit was to demonstrate AMERICA's determination to rescue the MIDDLE EAST from the Axis. In EGYPT, TURKEY, SYRIA, PALESTINE, IRAN, and IRAQ, it is reported, he met with a warm welcome as President Roosevelt's envoy. In IRAQ, M. Nuri Said assured him of his determination to continue his services to the Allied cause. In IRAN, the Shah communicated to him his earnest desire for collaboration with the U. S. A. In the words of Said Salman Shaikh Daud spoken at a Press reception to Mr. Willkie at BAGHDAD, all Arabs from the Mediterranean to the Indian Ocean have complete trust in ENGLAND and AMERICA.

▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼

MADAGASCAR OPERATIONS. The latest reports bring the news of the fall of TULEAR the last remaining port in the southern part of the island. The speed with which the operations are being carried on reflects every credit on the fighting forces. In a statement made on September 29 Mr. Churchill said how within 24 hours of the occupation of MAJUNGA the great suspension bridge over the Betisboka river was reached and crossed, though the enemy had previously cut it. On September 17 TAMATAVA was occupied and after some opposition the capital itself fell on September 19. All resistance has now collapsed in the northern part of the island between DIEGO SUAREZ and MAJUNGA.

Meanwhile Laval is trying hard to convince his countrymen that AMERICA and BRITAIN are going to take over the French Empire and that therefore a closer collaboration with GERMANY is necessary to save what remains. The entry of BRAZIL into the war is described as an attempt to attack French West AFRICA from BRAZIL. The British operations in MADAGASCAR, in spite of British assurances to the contrary, are described as 'robbing' France of another part of her Colonial Empire. Laval is now busy making out that German help is necessary to save French West AFRICA. For this, Vichy denials notwithstanding, German troops have been moved to DAKAR and the Gestapo has been allowed to control the French Gendarmerie and police in MOROCCO. There is also no doubt that Laval would welcome every opportunity of joining up with the Nazis if only to attack the Fighting French in AFRICA. There is no end to Laval's malice.

▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼

TEN RAIDS IN TWO WEEKS. In the first 14 days of September R. A. F. mounted ten offensives against targets in GERMANY, the heaviest of them being directed against SAARBRUCKEN, KARLSRUHE, BREMEN (twice) DUISBURG

FRANKFORT-ON-MAIN, DUSSELDORF and WILHELMSHAVEN. DUSSELDORF produces munitions, BREMEN and WILHELMSHAVEN build U-boat destroyers and air-craft, and FRANKFORT has oil refineries, synthetic plants and air-craft factories, whole KARLSRUHE and DUISBURG are nodal communication points.

Two innovations marked the R. A. F's activities. Canadian bomber squadrons made their first appearance over GERMANY on September 8, when they raided FRANKFORT-ON-MAIN in company with the R. A. F. The Army Co-operation Command of the R. A. F. made its debut on September 15 when it attacked factories and railway-yards in N. FRANCE with gun-fire.

v v v v v v v v v v v v v

LAVAL'S BETRAYAL. The announcement that Laval made as early as June 22 that Hitler had mercifully decided to liberate French prisoners of war is, as is now clear, a smoke-screen behind which French labour is recruited to GERMANY. The arrangement is ostensibly, to liberate French prisoners who are agriculturists in exchange for industrial workers in FRANCE. Hitler wanted 500,000 workmen and Laval promised 30,000.

Hitler's plan is a cut-throat policy; it is a trick, actually to get more Frenchmen into the Reich and so to tighten the grip on FRANCE, because, for the release of every agricultural labour, who is a prisoner in GERMANY, three skilled metal workers should be exchanged, so that eventually GERMANY will have more French hostages than now to ensure French submission. It is also a device to set free more Germans now in the factories for the fighting front. The return of the agricultural labourers, which will no doubt increase food production in FRANCE, is also to the advantage of the Nazi, as the harvest will ultimately go to feed the Germans. Thus at one stroke Hitler has planned to get more men for his army, more workers for his factories, and more food for his people.

Though Laval, as Hitler's minion has opened a special department, and is running special trains, he has not been able to recruit more than 5,000 out of the 30,000 workers he promised. He is now prepared to betray the Jews. It is reported he is also recruiting natives from French AFRICA. These men are put on the most dangerous jobs in GERMANY such as the experimental production of poison—a job which has cost already the lives of many Poles.

The general attitude of the workmen so imported into GERMANY may be summed up in the following message sent by them to General de Gaulle on May Day: 'Our country is still at war. We are not the accomplices of traitors, GERMANY has forced some of us to work for her but we are ready to do everything to help you to sabotage the enemy's production and to accept as justified the bombing of factories working for GERMANY.'

No wonder that sensible and patriotic Frenchmen are joining the Fighting French in large numbers. On August 18, M. Falix Geuin, Vice-President of the Socialist Parliamentary group in the Chamber of Deputies arrived in BRITAIN to join the French National Committee. M. Andre Philipps, the Socialist deputy for LYONS, had joined earlier. Now M. Jules Blondel, former French Minister in SOFIA, is on his way to join de Gaulle. Other latest arrivals from occupied FRANCE are M. Charles Vallin, Deputy for PARIS, and M. Pierri Brosslette, former editor of *La Populaire*. The abolition of the French Parliament has proved to many a patriotic Frenchman the proverbial last straw.

v v v v v v v v v v v v v

THE APING SLAVE. In imitation of Hitler, Antonescu, RUMANIA's dictator, has now become RUMANIA's sole dispenser of law. The reason is not far to seek. It is to quell in Hitler fashion the rising revolt in RUMANIA. Antonescu, is now between the devil and the deep sea. He cannot please Hitler if he would please the Rumanians and if he displeases Hitler woe to his dictatorship. Nor can he please his neighbours for the more of TRANSYLVANIA he cedes to HUNGARY under Hitler's 'persuasion' the more greedy does HUNGARY become ; like Oliver Twist HUNGARY keeps asking for more. While large forces are required to guard the frontier against HUNGARY Hitler's demand for more Rumanians for sacrifice on the Russian battlefields also grows ; Hitler's appetite grows by what it feeds on. If he demur Hitler threatens to recall the rebellious Iron Guards and replace him by Sima. On the other hand, the Rumanians with good reason grumble that they have already sacrificed a quarter of a million of their comrades at ODESSA alone to satisfy Hitler. They complain that they are singled out for the most dangerous conflicts. They are afraid of the recent Russian raids on their oil-fields at PLOESTI. Faced with the alternatives of overthrow by Hitler or internal rebellion, Antonescu has preferred the course of subservience to Hitler coupled with tyranny over his countrymen. So he has become the sole law-maker of RUMANIA. The fact that this news was first announced from BERLIN is a measure of Antonescu's vassalage.

v v v v v v v v v v v v v

Dr. TISO. An unsuccessful attempt on the life of Dr. Tiso, the Quisling President of Nazified SLOVAKIA, is reported by Reuter. The Slovak people who have been overrun and plundered can never become reconciled to Nazidom ; they are made of sterner stuff. They are, in the first instance, disaffected because of the anti-Semitic measures adopted by the Quisling Government. They are also determined on opposing the Carpathian Germans, who though a small minority wish to dominate. Hitler's recent demands for more Slovak soldiers

for the eastern front have definitely increased the existing unrest. Dr. Tiso's rulership of the puppet Slovak Government is therefore, by no means, enviable.

v v v v v v v v v v v v v

ARGENTINE. That faith is growing in the Allied cause and strength is amply borne out by the latest news from ARGENTINE, of a resolution passed by her Chamber of Foreign Relations Committee urging the breaking off of relations with the Axis. If it is not exactly a declaration of war against the Axis it is at-least a gravitation towards the Allies.

When the U. S. first entered the war, in December last, ARGENTINE was not so sure of U. S'. aid as BUENOS AIRES lies as far from NEW YORK as CHINA from SAN FRANCISCO. So she adopted a policy of neutrality, amounting to frigidity. But now that BRAZIL has joined the Allies, which means nearer bases from which U. S. could help her and drive off her enemies, ARGENTINE is drifting towards the Allies.

v v v v v v v v v v v v v

CARGO SUBMARINES. It has been known for some time that Japanese supplies of tin and rubber have been reaching GERMANY by submarine transport. The recent cryptic Axis announcement of Japanese naval forces having linked up with the German navy in the Atlantic need therefore cause no surprise. In these days of improved submarine construction it is quite possible for ocean-going submarines to traverse the 10,000 miles of sea from SINGAPORE to the German occupied Atlantic Coast line. refuelled on the way by Axis supply ships. On the same track may pass other Japanese submarines bent on their piratical and destructive work.

v v v v v v v v v v v v v

THE ALASKAN HIGHWAY. On September 24, Mr. Stimson, U. S. Secretary for war announced that the 1,600 mile long highway connecting the U. S. and CANADA Road-systems with ALASKA now under construction at a cost of about £ 6,600,000 would be completed by the beginning of December of this year, months ahead of schedule. Instead of being a rough road as it was originally designed to be it will now be a regular truck-road, well-graded and well-drained, which will be good enough to take supplies of war materials all through the year except when the thaw sets in April. On the completion of the Highway American forces attacking the Japanese forces in the ALEUTIANS will get their supplies by land and across the Behring Straits only some 60 miles long, relieving the pressure on the shipping now carrying the supplies. If the Japanese invade SIBERIA it will become the supply route to the Soviet.

AXIS CRIMES.

(*Mr. Anthony Eden, the Foreign Secretary, Leamington, Sept. 26*)

"We are resolved that the Axis Crimes shall not go unpunished. We are not animated by a spirit of revenge, natural though such a spirit must be to so many in Europe to-day.

"But my conviction is that civilised justice will only be restored to its rightful place in the affairs of men when the criminals who have sought to destroy it are made to answer for their deeds. The retribution must be swift and sure.

"How do we propose to help the peoples in the enslaved lands once the ever-increasing might of the Allied forces begins to assert itself?

"The enemy must first be expelled by the Allied armies, root and branch. Law and order must be re-established, civil administration set going, communications repaired and the essential services of civilised life restored.

"This work must inevitably, in the initial stages, be carried out under military supervision, since the Allied armies could not operate satisfactorily unless the essential needs of the distressed populations behind their lines were secured. But as the operations proceed and conditions in the liberated countries begin to settle down, there must, obviously, be a progressive transfer of responsibility to civil administration, particularly the responsibility of maintaining security and feeding the population."

RELIEF FOR THE OPPRESSED.

"The change over from military operations to the second stage of relief would take place almost insensibly, and the second stage might well be under way in some of the territories, while in others the military stage would continue.

"The object of relief would be to ensure that as soon as the occupied territories were clear of the enemy, the population would no longer suffer privations. The task of organising relief should be simplified by the existing war organisations for the distribution of supplies.

"The entry of America into the war had called for a fresh examination of the problem and a number of discussions had taken place with the United States authorities.

"I myself have had preliminary conversations with the Soviet Ambassador, and the Chinese Government have also been approached regarding relief in the Far Eastern area. All the United Nations must play their part in any scheme of relief, and this cannot be arranged in a moment.

"It is, therefore, right to get ready now. The work of preparations is going forward and the United Nations between them must have both the will and physical means to cope with the immediate problems of distress in areas freed from Axis oppression.

" So far as this country is concerned, I feel sure that the British people, as a whole, will willingly snbmit to considerable sacrifices in order to relieve distress among their Allies on the continent of Europe".

THE R. A. F. OFFENSIVE.

"It would be a grave mistake to underrate the influence of their bomber offensive against Germany on the whole course of the war. The oflensive was, at last, developing in weight and sustained power, The German Blitz failed in 1941, because of the failure of the Luftwaffe in both these respects. The Germans never had a big enough force to begin with. Much of it was squandered in daylight raids during the Battle ol Britain, and the concentration required for success was never achieved, still less maintained. All the same it was quite bad enough.

"They were all "delighted" to see the fulfilment of Mr. Churchill's promise that "it would be our stern duty to deal with the German cities where vital industries of the German war machine are established." There was evidence that these raids were hitting the Germans hard. Even Dr. Goebbels had dropped his attempt to suppress the effect of the damage which could no longer be hidden.

"The offensive was gathering momentum. In June and July, 1940, the R. A. F. dropped 3,500 tons of bombs on Germany. In the same two months in 1941, they dropped 8,500 tons and in June and July 1942, 13,000 tons. In the first 15 days of this month, 5,000 tons were dropped in nine raids. Only twice did the Nazis drop more than 400 tons on Britain in a night—each time on London—a vast area five times the size of Cologne " where we have already dropped 1,000 tons in 90 minutes".

THE TARGETS BOMBED.

"Targets connected with the battle of the Atlantic like Bremen, Wilhelmshaven and Dusseldorf were still receiving a generous share of the R. A. F's attention.

" We shall have to go to those places again, time after time, with heavier and heavier raids. That is the secret of bombing—weight and sustained power.

" To speak of the offensive as if its object were to frighten the German is mistaken. The object is not to frighten him but to paralyse him and make him incapable of doing further harm.

"The accuracy of our bombing is increasing with its weight. The complicated and heavily strained German transport system is now even more strained, because it is thus experiencing ever increasing difficulties in transporting munitions from manufacturing centres in Western Germany to their forces on the Eastern Front.

"The bombing offensive has justified itself already. I can assure you, we fully understand the importance of maintaining that offensive and further strengthening its weight week by week and month by month. That will be done".

BRITAIN'S FOREIGN POLICY.

"It is not possible any longer to think of foreign countries as distant lands whose ways are not our ways and whose interests are not our interests. The well-being of everyone of us in this country depends, and will increasingly depend, upon the things that are happening and upon the thoughts men are thinking in countries which, perhaps, we shall never see. Good relations between countries depend upon many things. But, above all, they depend upon understanding and confidence. We have to create confidence in our word and in our intentions, but to do this we must first have confidence in ourselves.

"Looking back over the period between the two wars, we have cause for regret, because we had not enough faith. We lacked faith in ourselves and in the cause we championed. Nowhere was this more evident than in the field of foreign policy.

"Our will to maintain a strong and consistent foreign policy was frustrated by the desire for comfort and a quiet life, by willingness to rest upon past glories, by a lazy aversion to new ideas, above all, by our unwillingness to make sacrifices for the defence of ourselves and what we stood for."

BAD OLD DAYS.

"I think we have learned our lesson. I pray, we may remember it. It will not be easy to remember it. When the war is over, weariness will come back and selfishness too, for we are human, but if once again we seek to drift back to the good old times which were not really so very good for many among us after all, if we imagine that all controls can be swept aside or that we can return to the economic anarchy of the old days, above all, if we think we can have peace and security on the cheap, then, certainly, we shall bring not only discredit, but disaster upon ourselves, and it will be well merited".

POST-WAR WORLD.

"What of the post-war world we have to create ? How are we to set up an international order more in harmony with the natural trends of our civilisation and more likely to give rise to a long period of real peace than the

machine-made and soulless tyranny of the Herrenvolk (master race?). The answer to these questions lies in the co-operation of the United Nations, more especially within the United Nations in the co-operation of the great powers. In particular, we are determined to keep in close step with the United States in all matters of policy and we have also specifically pledged ourselves by the Anglo-Soviet Treaty to collaborate fully in post-war reconstruction with Russia. China is clearly the fourth partner in this scheme of things.

"Britain would continue to encourage smaller States to weld themselves into larger, though not exclusive, groupings. Thus, they would be better able, in collaboration with the great powers, to play their part in maintaining peace."

OLD ORDER IS DEAD.

"An enduring settlement and a better world after the war cannot be created unless they are based on understanding, confidence and a will to see the realities and face them. The old world is dead, it was dying even before it was broken to pieces by the hammers of Wotan and Thor. None of us can now escape from revolutionary changes even if we would, but so far as we are concerned, there is only one safe way through the maze of post-war complications.

"That is a belief in ourselves as a nation and a belief in our duties and responsibilties as a world power and to the world at large. If we are inspired with this sense of our mission, co-operation with our Allies, great and small, will be all the easier.

"Mr Churchill is a 'very great leader of men,' We always need this kind of leadership in peace as well as in war, no smooth promises to catch votes but hard truths to retain them. In peace we shall be facing different dangers and new difficulties, but we shall need equal courage to fight our way through both. The leadership we shall acquire must come not only from above. It must be the united leadership of a nation ready and able to lead to the goal it understands, accepts and desires."

ALL BATTLEFIELDS ARE ONE UNIT.

Mr. C. R. Attlee, British Deputy Prime Minister, *Ottawa Sept. 28.*

The war plans of the United Nations cannot be affected by demands made by irresponsible people.

"Those who bear the responsibility regard the battlefields of war as one unit."

The enemy is carrying on propaganda to suggest to the various Allies that some are not doing as much as others, and there are always some foolish people who play the enemy's game."

Hitler's second attempt to deal a knock-out blow to Russia had not proceeded according to plan.

"Stalingrad, battered and hammered, still standing like Verdun, is proving to be the graveyard of thousands of Germans.

"The danger in the Far East, was not at an end, but in time the forces of the United Nations will be able to take the offensive, and the Chinese would reap the reward of their long and heroic struggle.

"We have been travelling on a dark and stony track, and it has been uphill all the way. We cannot tell how long yet will be our pilgrimage, but we can see in the distance delectable mountains.

"Till the war is won the United Nations must not relax. We must not break our unity of purpose. We must set ourselves to the task for which we are preparing now—establishing a peaceful world based on the principles of the Atlantic Charter."

BRITAIN HAS FOUGHT ON 13 FRONTS.

Lord Croft, Joint Under-Secretary for War.

Britain has fought on 13 different Fronts mostly against great odds—and has inflicted well over 600,000 casualties on Axis armies. Now we brace ourselves for a still sterner conflict in the Middle East, and wherever we can get at the enemy with any chance of success. Malta stands out like a beacon for all heroes.

ALLIES WILL NOT FAIL CHINA.

(*Mr. Herbert Morrison, Home Secretary, Manchester, Sept. 27*).

"China is holding a million Japanese soldiers, who would otherwise be at the throats of the United Nations in other theatres of war. China is the first great country to resist aggression, and her leaders were forced to see that the war against Fascism, wherever it took place and whenever it began, was, and is, one war.

"Within five years they had been able to build up, almost literally out of nothing, in a material sense, an effective resistance against a powerfully-armed and aggressively-minded neighbour. When the war broke out, China was just

JAPS SPRANG SURPRISE.

" Japan sprang rather a surprise on us as we thought they had trained on more orthodox lines, and were not able to travel so fast or so light.

" The question is what are the Japs going to do ? I think, that, like the boa constrictor which has swallowed a large animal, they want to digest. I don't fancy that they want to take on anything big at the moment, like the invasion of Australia or India.

I think the Japanese air force will turn out to be their weakest point. They have got to keep a fairly large air force on the home front and also in Manchuria to watch Russia, and in the South-west Pacific. Sooner or later, in order to be a great Power in Asia, which she wishes to be, Japan will have, firstly to try and take into account the Russian menace and secondly, try and settle up the Chinese business.

RUSSIA—HEART OF PROBLEM.

" The heart of the problem is Russia, and it is a question affecting India. Germany's hope was to put the Russian army out of business this summer, as she did in 1917. Their idea would be then to refit during the winter in order to meet the attack in the west, or take the offensive. They would probably try hard to effect a pincer movement in the Middle East next year. It is beginning to get to the end of the campaigning season, and at the same time the question of weather has to be viewed with care ; I was always told we could not fight in the Western Desert in summer, but we did so, and the rainy season in Abyssinia did not prevent a campaign. The Germans will not have achieved their objective, however, if they still have a Russian army intact to the north and the Caucasus intact to the south. The Russians may lose Stalingrad but that does not alter the situation a great deal. The line of the Volga in the lower reaches freezes towards the end of the year while the southern passes in the Caucasus are getting snow now.

INDIA'S FLANK SAFE.

" I don't think it is going to be easy for the Germans to come down the Caucasus now, or next Spring, and capture the oil supplies in Persia. This is of interest to me, as it is the western flank of India.

" I am satisfied with the situation here, though the disturbances while they lasted had a certain effect on the war effort, the important thing is that 70,000 recruits continue to come in every month, and there has been no sign whatever of trouble in the Army.

" With air raids on Germany, and losses of men and material in Russia, there will be the problem of propping up German morale this winter. The 'New Rule' is not going down well in Europe any more than did Napolean's, Europe is being plundered for the advantage of the Boche. But before we get back Europe, there will have to be some hard fighting. In the Battle of

the Somme during the last war we lost 60,000 of the flower of the British Army on the first day but the German Army was finally broken. I have no doubt about the final result of the war. Spirit and staying power will win. America, ourselves, Russia and China are going to fight to the end."

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW.

AMERICA'S "MOONLIGHT CAVALRY"

"**Moonlight cavalry,**" as America's searchlight operators are called, are now to man the eastern seaboard sweeping the skies with the powerful fingers of their 800,000,000 candle power searchlights. Passengers in commercial planes, picked up by the beams of searchlights, can read a newspaper by its light.

7,000,000 women of Britain have already been registered and are being directed into war work. Unmarried women between 20 and 30 can be drafted into the uniformed forces.

By the time the present ploughing programme in Great Britain is completed, nearly 6,000,000 acres will have been added to the total area of arable land since the war began.

So far 39,000 trainees have been enrolled under the Technical Training Scheme of the Labour Department in India. Of these 10,700 have completed their training, while 28,300 are still on the rolls. There are at present vacancies for another 11,000 candidates. Trainees, while under training, receive a monthly stipend of Rs. 22 if they are non-matriculates, or Rs. 27 if they are matriculates, and are absorbed into industry, either private or Governmental, on completion of their training which lasts from six to twelve months.

During the fortnight ended July 15, 1942, a sum of Rs. 905,000 was contributed to His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund. Total collections up to the above mentioned date amounted to Rs. 71,300,000, which includes interest realised on investments of cash balances.

Payments in India and overseas during the fortnight aggregated Rs. 677,560. Total payments till the end of the period came to Rs. 61,504,160.

Subscriptions to the Third Defence Loan for the week ending August 1, 1942, amounted Rs. 4,414,700.

The total amount subscribed to the Interest-free Defence Bonds up to August 1, 1942, was Rs. 29,799,000; to 3 percent Defence Loans (including previous issues) Rs. 1,062,369,000; and to the Post Office Ten-year Defence Savings Certificates Rs. 57,200,000.

The grand total of subscriptions to all Indian Defence Loans since they were first issued in June 1940 up to August 1, 1942 is Rs. 1,149,368,000.

The total expenditure on the Defence Services in India during 1940-41 was Rs. 127 crores of which India's share was Rs. 73½ crores, the rest being borne by His Majesty's Government.

His Majesty's Government made sterling payments amounting to Rs. 258 crores during the year 1941-42 for recoverable war expenditure and purchases in India.

PRICES IN GREECE.

For twelve months Greece has been an unwilling unit of Hitler's "New Order in Europe". Price-increases since the German invasion last Spring are an eloquent commentary on "Co-Prosperity"—Berlin or Tokyo brand.

Before Nazi Invasion.		To-Day.
2 ANNAS	Egg	4 RUPEES.
14 ANNAS	Restaurant Meal	13 RUPEES.
14 ANNAS	One Seer of Beans	72 RUPEES.
21 RUPEES	One Pair of Shoes	290 RUPEES.
105 RUPEES	One Suit	900 RUPEES.

PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE

Pudukkottai State National War Front Bureau.

1942— LECTURE CXV—(*Batch 2*).

October	3, Saturday ...	Municipal Office ...	7.45 p. m.
	4, Sunday ...	Kudumiyamalai ...	7.00 p. m.
		Parambur ...	7.30 p. m.
	5, Monday ...	Nachchandupatti ...	7.00 p. m.
		Virachchilai ...	7.30 p. m.
	6, Tuesday ...	Vengalur ...	7.00 p. m.
		Konapattu ...	7.30 p. m.
	7, Wednesday.	Nallur ...	7.00 p. m.
		Mandaiyur ...	7.30 p. m.
	8, Thursday ...	Panayappatti ...	7.00 p. m.
		Rangiyam ...	7.30 p. m.

LECTURE CXVI

	10, Saturday ...	Municipal Office quadrangle.	6.00 p. m.

THE FOLLOWING PLACES WILL BE VISITED BY THE ADVERTISING PARTY OF THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU FROM 4 P. M. TO 5 P. M. ON THE DAYS NOTED BELOW. THE STATE BAND WILL PLAY; POSTERS WILL BE EXHIBITED; AND HAND-BILLS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AND EXPLAINED.

Saturday	...	26— 9—42	...	Tirumayyam.
Sunday	...	27— 9—42	...	Tittanviduthi.
Monday	...	28— 9—42	...	Mullankurichchi.
Tuesday	...	29— 9—42	...	Perambur.
Wednesday	...	30— 9—42	...	Kilanilai Puduppatti.
Thursday	...	1—10—42	...	Kul'pirai.
Friday	...	2—10—42	...	Pudukkottai.
Saturday	...	3—10—42	...	Ponnamaravathi.
Sunday	...	4—10—42	...	Virachchilai.
Monday	...	5—10—42	...	Viralimalai.
Tuesday	...	6—10—42	...	Konapattu.
Wednesday	...	7—10—42	...	Rayavaram.
Thursday	...	8—10—42	...	Alangudi.
Friday	...	9—10—42	...	Pudukkottai.

NOTICE.

A WAR FILM

prepared by

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

and known as

OUR VALIANT NEIGHBOUR

will be shown at

THE VALAMPURI TALKIES, PONNAMARAVATHI

FROM 10 TO 13TH OCTOBER, 1942.

The National War Front Bureau

recommends it to the public.

Sri Brihadamba State Press, Pudukkottai. 1,000—4-9-42.